

the wording makes it appear as if I considered that name to be a mere synonym of *G. tricuspidata*. I had no such intention; what I meant to convey was, that Count Castelnau had mistaken the ordinary banded form of *G. tricuspidata* for *G. zonata*, which is certainly not known in this colony. Regarding this banding, which I had considered to be indicative of youth, as in the case of many other fishes, I am now at a loss, as I have seen many banded examples of equal size with the plain ones; and I am informed that the same haul of a net will frequently take equal numbers of either form, and even the fishermen, who as a rule go by colours, recognize only one species.

Since writing the above I have had an opportunity of seeing a living specimen of this beautiful fish in the Manly Aquarium; it is smaller than either of my specimens, being, I should say, about 14 inches long; is of a brighter blue all over, and has more golden spots.

6. On an undescribed Fish of the Genus *Prionurus* from Australia. By J. DOUGLAS-OGILBY, Ichthyol. Dept. Australian Museum. (Communicated by F. DAY, Esq., F.Z.S.)

[Received March 26, 1887.]

The fish which is described below belongs to a small collection obtained some years ago in Port Jackson, and measures over 15 inches. It is very distinct from our common *P. microlepidotus*, and though it agrees with *P. scalprum* in the fin-rays and profile of snout, in other points it approaches nearer to *P. laticlavius*; I have no choice therefore but to describe it as a new species.

PRIONURUS MACULATUS, sp. nov.

B. v. D. 9/24. A. 3/23. V. 1/5. P. 17. C. 17.

Length of head  $4\frac{3}{5}$ , of caudal fin  $5\frac{1}{3}$ , height of body  $2\frac{2}{3}$  in the total length. *Eye*—diameter  $\frac{1}{4}$  of the length of the head,  $\frac{2}{5}$  of that of the snout, and  $\frac{5}{6}$  of the interorbital space, which is convex. The upper profile of the snout is very slightly concave, that of the occiput as slightly convex. Upper jaw overhanging the lower. *Teeth*—A single series of compressed pluricuspid teeth in both jaws. *Fins*.—The dorsal fin commences above the opercular angle; its spines are moderately strong, the fifth the highest,  $\frac{2}{5}$  of the length of the head, the first very short; the rays are nowhere so high as the spines; the base of the spinous portion is  $\frac{5}{7}$  of that of the soft. The anal fin commences beneath the last dorsal spine; its third spine is much the longest, equal to the anterior rays and almost as long as the fifth dorsal spine. The ventral fins reach to the second anal spine. Pectorals truncate behind, reaching to a little beyond the ventrals and equal in length to the head. Caudal fin emarginate. *Caudal laminae*—a series of three keeled bony plates

on each side. *Pseudobranchiæ* largely developed. *Colours*—After about five years' maceration in spirit the colours are now, rich brown with numerous round dull yellow spots, broader than the interspaces, on the head and upper half of the sides. Fins darker brown.

---

May 3, 1887.

Dr. Edward Hamilton, Vice-President, in the Chair.

The Secretary read the following report on the additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of April 1887 :—

The total number of registered additions to the Society's Menagerie during the month of April was 99. Of these 14 were by birth, 50 by presentation, 15 by purchase, 8 by exchange, and 12 were received on deposit. The total number of departures during the same period, by death and removals, was 97.

The most noticeable additions during the month were :—

1. Two young Polar Bears (*Ursus maritimus*), presented by Joseph Monteith, Esq., received April 16th.

2. Two Crested Ducks (*Anas cristata*) from the Falkland Islands, received April 16th, presented by Frederick E. Cobb, Esq., C.M.Z.S. This species is new to the Society's Collection of Waterfowl.

---

The following extracts were read from a letter addressed to the Secretary by Mr. Roland Trimen, F.Z.S., dated "South-African Museum, Cape Town, 29th March, 1887" :—

"I know that you and other ornithologists will be interested in hearing that a second example of *Laniarius atrocroceus*, Trimen (see Proc. Zool. Soc. 1880, p. 623, pl. lix.), has been obtained.

"It was brought to me yesterday for comparison with the original type specimen by Mr. A. W. Eriksson, who shot it on the Matlabast River, a stream not far north of the junction of the Marico with the Limpopo, and itself a tributary of the latter.

"The label attached to this second known specimen (a ♂) notes that its iris is 'lavender, with a narrow dark brown line next the pupil,' and that it was shot about ten miles from the locality where the late Dr. Bladshaw shot the first example. I can detect no difference between the two specimens.

"Mr. Eriksson gave me a graphic account of his discovery of the bird. *L. atrococcineus* was common in the locality, and when Mr. Eriksson first caught sight of the *L. atrocroceus* it was quarrelling with an individual of that most closely allied bird. The note of the *L. atrocroceus* exactly resembled that of the *L. atrococcineus*; and this seemed to annoy the latter, who was the assailant in the squabble. When the *L. atrocroceus* resisted, it seemed to get the better of the other. So intent were the two birds on their contest that they for some time disregarded Mr. Eriksson's presence, and kept so close to him in a thorny brake that he could not fire without too great a risk